

IDEA-0017
Copy // of 11

2 November 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR : Deputy Director (Plans)
THROUGH : Acting Chief, Development Projects Division *544*
SUBJECT : Future Status of Detachment B

1. I am exceedingly reluctant to raise again the spectre of Detachment B in your presence in the face of the multitude of more pressing matters crossing your desk, but I would like to take note of the impending end of the so-called "contract year" for the industrial suppliers represented in that group.

2. On 14 November 1960, we reach the termination of the Lockheed and other contracts at B. We can extend these people on the same contract for another thirty days if necessary, but we are beginning to be pressed hard to define our objectives for a longer period. I am reluctant to see us enter into a new contract with more people than we would require if the decision to return home came shortly after the signing of new documents.

25X1A 3. I might add that were the Detachment to be returned to the States, some of the Agency and military people could profitably be used, either at Edwards Air Force Base or in our [REDACTED]. This would enable us to relieve the pressure we are forced to keep on the Air Force, the Agency, and the contractors to supply people, sometimes from scratch, for the Far East unit.

4. I need not mention the economies that would result from withdrawal of the Detachment; my rough guesstimate is that it costs upwards of \$150,000 per month just to keep the outfit in place--a figure which could well serve as a yardstick to measure the utility of programs such as the one proposed by General Strong. Perhaps you would be willing to touch base with [REDACTED] again by phone in the next few days to enable us to solidify our planning before we are inevitably drawn into active contract discussions with our suppliers. 25X1A

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SIGNED
JAMES A. CUNNINGHAM, JR.
Assistant Chief
DPD-DD/P

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